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People who live on sandbars by the gulf, like that on which Galveston is situated, can never have any security to life and property. The hand of man has never yet built a protection that a tidal wave couldn't sweep over.

The Atlantic ocean is the most honest among the seven seas. It is always rough and grumbling and always openly dangerous. But it doesn't smile on you in the morning and send a billion tons of water over your home before midnight.

Some newspapers, which should know better, insist that the government of counties by boards of commissioners is similar to commission government in cities. What foolishness this is. A board of county commissioners is elected every two years by popular vote. It manages the affairs of a county on exactly the same principle that a council manages the affairs of a city or town. It is representative government, pure and simple.

Governor Harris of Georgia has offered rewards for the apprehension of the lynchers of Frank. If Governor Harris had done his duty in the first place, Frank would not have been lynched. Now, if he will say, "There is no use for me to try to do anything; a large element of the people are in league to uphold and protect that band of midnight assassins," he would tell the exact truth and give even the most rabid of the lawbreakers of his state something to think of.

The proceedings against the alleged German spy in Tallahassee have been delayed on account of the necessity of obtaining an official interpreter. If Ortolph can't speak English fluently, he isn't a spy. Does any sensible man suppose the German government would be foolish enough to send for a spy into an English-speaking community a man who can't speak English. The man may be shamming, but it is more than likely he is a harmless foreigner on no business but his own. There is nothing in that part of Florida that the German government needs to know that it couldn't find out in the congressional library or some other place in Washington.

In the Star's opinion there should be at least one railroad man on every railroad commission. It is only a matter of fairness that there should be, and the presence of one man able to give expert advice would save the commission many mistakes. The Star knows a number of railroad men who, if they were on the commission would give all the people faithful service; in fact, they are more to be trusted than some men who seek office on a platform of abusing the corporations, and whom the corporations can generally buy in a few months after election. If we had a commission with one expert railroad man on it, and all determined to do justice to both people and railroads, it would be worth more than a million dollars a year to the state.

It is an axiom that a lie will travel miles while truth is putting on its boots.—Copperhead Viereck in The Fatherland.

Painfully correct, worthy sir. Otherwise you couldn't have started your paper.—Columbia State.

The Fatherland was quite decent when it started. It was only after it found public sentiment in this country wouldn't be turned to the support of Kaiserism that it became rabid. It is perfectly proper and to be expected that a German-American should take the side of Germany against the allies. When he goes further and takes the side of Germany against America he becomes obnoxious. Men of Viereck's stamp should go back to Germany. If there is war between Germany and America, they will go to jail, and their utterances now may be the occasion of thousands of innocent people being persecuted.

Opinion on the lynching of Frank in Ocala is evenly divided. There are a good many ex-Germans in the city, and most of them approve of the lynching. Their opinion on the subject, however, is based on a firm belief in the guilt of Frank, and the very justifiable feeling that no punishment can be too severe for a man who would commit such a crime. Not a few say they would have joined in the lynching had they had an opportunity. Its the Star's opinion that when the returns begin to come in, and they find how greatly the affair has disgraced their native state in the eyes of the whole world, they will admit to themselves, if to no one else, that the act was a most indiscreet one. The good name of a state is worth more than the punishment of

SAVANNAH NEWS HAS KEPT ITS SENSES

The Savannah Morning News is one of the oldest and most influential papers in Georgia. The following from it may be considered a fair expression of the sentiment of the best element of the state:

The Lynching of Frank

The lynching of L. M. Frank makes a black chapter in the history of Georgia. It is a chapter that every Georgian who loves his state and is proud of her achievements will read with a feeling of regret and sorrow. The question as to whether Frank was guilty or innocent doesn't enter into the matter. The question whether or not there was ground for committing Frank's sentence to imprisonment for life isn't an issue. The simple facts are that Frank was a prisoner of the state, was serving a life sentence in the state's prison, and a mob of masked men broke into the prison, carried him to a distant part of the state and in the early morning hours hanged him until he was dead.

It is seldom that so great an outrage against the peace and dignity of a state is committed. That such an outrage blots the civilization of the great state of Georgia is profoundly regrettable. There isn't a citizen who loves the state and holds her reputation dear, whether he sympathized with Frank or believed that hanging was too good for him, who doesn't deplore this lynching tragedy because it is a blot on the state's good name.

The state had Frank in its custody and it was responsible for his protection. It had tried him for a heinous crime, he had been found guilty and sentenced to death, and his death sentence had been commuted to life imprisonment. The state was bound to see to it that the sentence was carried out. The state's authority was brushed aside and lynch law was substituted for it. The state was defied by the mob.

And who was responsible for this failure of the state to uphold the law? Unfortunately the state's authorities. They had ample warning that there was a bitterly hostile feeling against Frank and therefore should have made provision for his protection. Ope attempt had been made on his life, an attempt that was almost successful, and it was a fair conclusion that others would be made.

And there doesn't seem to have been any special preparation made to defeat such attempts. Apparently the mob found no difficulty in reaching Frank at the prison farm and in carrying him away to be lynched. Not as much difficulty was experienced in taking him from the state's prison and the state's authorities as a mob ordinarily encounters in taking a prisoner from a county sheriff or from a county jail.

It may be said that fear that an effort would be made to lynch Frank had died out and that for that reason precautionary measures had been discontinued, but that statement will not satisfy the people of Georgia who feel that their state has been put in a bad light and who realize that sharp and stinging criticisms will be leveled at her civilization.

It isn't Frank they are thinking about nor his crime, nor his extraordinarily sensational trial, nor the deplorable events that followed it. They are thinking of their state and the harm that this lynching of a prisoner, whose case had attained nationwide importance, will do it, and thinking of that they feel that the care necessary for safeguarding the prisoner was not exercised—that there was a lack of efficiency and of a feeling of responsibility somewhere.

The governor says that he will make every effort to discover the lynchers and bring them to justice. He is expected to do that and if he is successful he will strike a blow at lynch law that will have a lasting effect and be a blessing to the state. We cannot hope to have a full measure of success for our efforts to make this a great and prosperous commonwealth if mob law flourishes in her borders. If prisoners can be taken out of her prison by a mob and lynched when commutation of their sentences doesn't meet with popular approval.

We shall hear it said that the commutation of Frank's sentence was an encouragement of mob law. That may be so, but that isn't the question that is confronting us now. The question is the incalculable damage that has been done the state, the people of the state, by a few lawless men. The only way to offset that damage is to search out and punish the men who put the blot on the state's fair name and thus show that Georgia's civilization doesn't approve of lynch law or lawlessness of any kind. We want the world to understand that our laws are just and fair and that in our courts the scales of justice are held evenly.

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The Diamond From the Sky

By ROY L. MCCARDELL

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(Continued from Last Week)

CHAPTER XII. The Tournament.

"BUT poor Arthur Stanley won't be here to ride this year," exclaimed the good natured young man when they had all finished reading the announcement.

"The idea of them suspecting he killed old Dr. Lee!" chimed in the equally generous minded Ralph Hunter. "Why, Arthur for all his wild ways had the best and kindest heart in the world. And he loved Dr. Lee like a son, even if they did have some jolly old rows about the way Arthur spent money like water and got in debt."

"But why did Arthur run away? None of us believe him guilty, and we may have our faults in Fairfax, but we are all kin, and we all stand together when outsiders make trouble," asked Ralph Hunter.

"Shut up, you big silly!" cried Bert Randolph impulsively. "Can't you see you are making Miss Esther cry? Didn't you promise me we wouldn't say anything about Arthur's troubles? You know Miss Esther liked him best of all of us."

"Oh, pray, do forgive me, Miss Esther," cried the contrite young Hunter. "But I just can't keep quiet about Arthur. Keeping quiet implies we do believe those awful suspicions."

"I thank you for that," said Esther tremulously. "Let us talk about him. We know he is guilty of nothing except being a reckless boy, with no father and no mother."

Hagar spoke up for the first time. "Yes," she said huskily, "he had no mother."

"I'll tell you something about Arthur," spoke up Bert Randolph. "It was a secret, he had only told me. He was going to ride in the tournament this year and wrest Blair's laurels as the best rider in Fairfax from him. You know why? Well, Arthur was determined to win this year. It was when Miss Esther was at Dr. Lee's he told me. He was resolved to win so he could crown Miss Esther queen of love and beauty."

"Well, we'll do it for him," cried young Hunter. "All the girls of Fairfax are wild for the honor. But we'll win it for Miss Esther. One of us will block Blair Stanley, and the other will win the wreath."

"Ho!" chuckled young Randolph. "Is that the chivalry of a masked knight in the tournament of Fairfax? That's a trick like Blair Stanley played almost. I am astonished at you, Ralph," he added, with mock seriousness.

All laughed, relieved of the tension the mention of Arthur's flight under its terrible suspicion had brought upon the little group, and soon after the young men rode away, declaring that Esther should be crowned at their hands and the socially powerful female relative from Richmond should take the young mistress of Stanley hall under the beneficence of her esteem.

It was about at this same time, on

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this shame afternoon, that a grim faced hunchback organ grinder with a monkey limped into the dooryard of Farmer Smith's. Poor Quabba! Well could he realize that riches seldom bring happiness—especially when we lose them almost as quickly as they have been gained.

But the joy and glee of the little five-year-old daughter of the Smiths cheered Quabba.

"Kids are always glad to see us, anyway, Clarence," he said, and he



It Was a Merry Group.

played his blithest tunes and Clarence was prompted to his best comedy by the appreciation of the small but select audience.

When Arthur, working on the Smith farm under the name of John Powell, came across the fields at sunset with his employer it was a merry group they found in the dooryard. Quabba and Clarence being regaled with the best from the board, as all wandering minstrels should be.

"I'm on my way to the tournament at Fairfax," Quabba said.

The Fairfax tournament! Arthur stirred with a sudden resolve. He would go! He would win the wreath and crown Esther queen of love and beauty! It was a wild risk to take, a daring thing to do, but he longed to see Esther, and the love of romance and the inclination to the dramatic were the heritage of his gypsy blood that overcame all caution and discretion. He would go! His heart beat like a drum with the resolution. Forcing himself to speak with a calmness he far from felt, he spoke up and said:

"If I can be spared for the day, and if you will lend me Starlight, Mr. Smith, and if you will make me a



And Esther Was There to Keep the Tryst.

mask, Mrs. Smith, and lend me a plume for my hat, I'll ride and show them how we do it in Kentucky!"

For it was as a young Kentuckian in hard luck Arthur had explained his plight and presence in that part of the country. Both the farmer and his wife had often discussed the stranger who had come to their door in the guise of a tramp, but they could see by his ways and manners he was no tramp. They judged him by his open, manly countenance and gentle courtesy, and whatever was his secret they felt it was no dishonorable one.

On Starlight, then, the farmer's blooded saddle horse, in his new cheap best clothes, and with his black silk mask and ostrich plume the farmer's wife had furnished from her Sunday finery, Arthur rode away with the best wishes of the farmer and his wife and his little girl, "to show," as Farmer Smith expressed it, "those stuck up Fairfax swells a taste of old Kentucky quality."

Quabba had been gone since the day before, but Arthur overtook him near Stanley hall. They waved at each other as Arthur galloped past. And then Arthur reined his horse in a little copse of wood near the mansion. Did he but know it, it was the spot where he had been born.

He had last seen Esther at Hagar's camp, but he was not surprised to catch the flutter of her dress at the window of the balcony that overlooked the garden at the side of Stanley hall.

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He had well remembered Hagar's parting words that she would take Esther to dwell at Stanley hall.

Cautious and as quiet as he was in stealing toward the house, the keen ears of Luke Lovell, at Stanley hall that day with messages to Hagar from her gypsy folk, heard his cautious foot-fall, and from a hiding place saw Arthur throw a hastily scrawled note, tied to a stone, through the open balcony to Esther's room. The note begged her to meet him at the old stile at the top of the hill, back of Stanley hall. And Esther was there to keep the tryst.

"You must not do this!" she panted wildly when Arthur explained his purpose. But Arthur laughed and paid her a brotherly compliment for her bright eyes and fair cheeks, set off all the better for her agitation and the beautiful white frock that she had donned for the tournament.

"I will ride wearing your favor, Esther, dear," said Arthur, and he took the silken sash she wore and kissed her and rode away, placing on his mask as he adjusted the sash as a scarf.

At Stanley hall Hagar impatiently waited for Esther, the carriage horses restless at the portals of the mansion.

"Where have you been?" she asked, "gathering flowers, I suppose?" For as an excuse Esther had hurriedly gathered a handful of roses to account for her delay.

At the Fairfax fair grounds all was bustle and excitement. The gentry were driving in and taking their seats in the gayly decorated grand stand. Already Blair Stanley's mother, with her guests, Mrs. Burton Randolph of Richmond and the beautiful lady from New York whom Blair was all attention to, Vivian Marston, had taken their

places and were sitting and holding to their seats and seats.

Chief Sam Swain was bustling about and in his heavy, lumbering way teasing a hunchback organ grinder who, with a monkey, had been the subject of much amusement on the tournament grounds. Sheriff Swain was jocularly pretending he would arrest both the musician and his monkey, and he was shaking the official handcuffs at these coin gathering entertainers.

And now the master of ceremonies made the announcement the masked knights were to tilt in a general melee

(Continued on Third Page)

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